INCOMING TELEGRAM (42) Department of State

ACTION COPY

PERMANENT RECORD COPY

33
Action

NEA
Info

SS
G
SP
L
H
EUR
AID
P
USIA
NSC
INR
CIA
NSA
OSD
ARMY
NAVY
AIR
RMR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Control: 23055
Rec'd: October 30, 1963
6:12 a.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/GSC/AR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 6 MAY 1982
RDS or EXCISION, DATE
TS JUST. (S)
EXEMPTION BASIS
RELEASE DENIED
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

1963 OCT 30 PM 1 54

MESSAGE CENTER NEA

FROM: Athens

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 656, October 29, 1 p.m.

ACTION DEPARTMENT 656, INFORMATION PARIS 52, ROME 39, ANKARA 18, NICOSIA 28, THESSALONIKI UNNUMBERED

PARIS FOR USRO, BURNS AND JAMES

ROME FOR BURRIS

EMBTEL 628 to 614

General impressions re Greek election scene reported reference telegram still stand in large measure but as election day approaches press campaign becoming more strident and claims by Center Union that they are confident of victory increasingly loud.

Papandreou and Center still riding a crest of enthusiasm and pro-Center VIMA reports that Papandreou now considers ERE parliamentary strength will be below 120 seats. This contrasts with VIMA October 27 "objective analysis" by three of their correspondents projecting ERE loss ranging between 27-38 seats. i.e. not less than 14 seats. Caramanlis on other hand has stated publicly he believes Greek people will give "comfortable majority" which is interpreted to be at least 16 seats.

Still too early to make firm prediction and 4 major rallies this week may well affect election results. However there is strong feeling current that ERE will lose [illegible] seats in Northern Greece, and most ERE observers conceive vote in other areas will be a shade less than in 1961. Markezinis making good last minute impression and likely to draw some strength from both ERE and Center; however most observers

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS PROHIBITED UNLESS "UNCLASSIFIED"

This copy must be returned to RM/R central files with notation of action taken.

ACTION ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION TAKEN	
NAME OF OFFICER & OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE OF ACTION	DIRECTIONS TO RM/R

GPO 930 500

believe he still not likely to muster more than 3-5 percent because of the feeling that vote for him is lost vote.

With many ERE forces (not including Caramanlis) talking in terms of results very close to 150 seats, and with weight given "psychological" factors in Greece, many now feel that no single party will have parliamentary strength to carry on, and "combination" will be necessary. Markezinis and Venizelos are of course considered front runners, but there are a number of permutations and combinations possible, none very good for stability of Greece.

Flyow* estimate will follow later in week.

GP-3.

BENNET

SYT

*As received, will be serviced upon request.